

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

I. Amendments to the Claims

Claim 26 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 25, and claim 25 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. In addition, claims 29 and 30 have been amended to depend from claim 26, rather than cancelled claim 25.

II. Allowable Claims

Claims 2-5, 9-18, 23 and 24 have been allowed. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable claims. Claims 2-5, 9-18, 23 and 24 have not been amended, and, as a result, remain in condition for allowance.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 26 was identified by the Examiner as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of base claim 25. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

As mentioned above, claim 26, containing the allowable subject matter, has been amended to include the subject matter of independent claim 25.

Accordingly, in view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter as discussed above, it is submitted that amended claim 26 and claims 27-30 that depend therefrom are allowable.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance and an early notification thereof is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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